conversion of (i) Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur-Jodhpur sector to broad gauge, and (ii) Jodhpur-Jaisalmer sector with provision of extension of new broad gauge up to Ramgarh and supply of wagons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir. During the current year January to April 12348 wagons have been loaded at Jaisalmer compared to only 10742 wagons in the corresponding period last year. As on 30-4-92, no indent for limestone was outstanding at Jaisalmer.

(b) Conversion of Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur section is targetted for completion during 1992-93 and the sections Jaipur Jodhpur and Jodhpur-Jaisalmer are targetted for completion in the 8th Plan.

There is, however, no proposal to extend the Broad Gauge line up to Ramgarh.

Metre Gauge Line in Goa

1079. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the present M. G. Railway line which runs very close to Dabolim Airport in Goa does not permit any expansion activities of the Airport on Northern Side ; and

(b) if so, whether Government would take steps to ensure that when the conversion of this line is taken up it is deviated away from this Airport so as to permit the Civil Aviation Department better access for expansion projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Complimentary Passes

1080. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AZFAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of complimentary passes issued by the Railways during the period from the 1st April, 1991 to 31st March, 1992 ; and

(b) what are the details of the pass holders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) During the period from 1-4-1991 to 31-3-1992, 92 Complimentary Card Passes were issued to individuals/organisations other than Freedom Fighters, as per details given in the Annexure. (*See* Appendix CLXIII, Annexure No. 20].

Connecting Madras and Dindigul via Vellupuram by Broad Gauge

1081. SHRI S. K.T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to connect Madras and Dindigul via Vellupuram and Tiruchirapalli by Broad Gauge so that the trunk line of Railways in Tamil Nadu is linked with the Broad Gauge Lines in the country ;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the present Madras, Jolarpet, Erode, Karur and Dindigul cannot serve South Arcot, Trichy, Thanjaur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Pon. Muthuranalingam. Thevar districts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry ; and

(c) whether Government would retain the existing metre gauge line between Maniyachi and Madurai when Maniyachi is linked with Madurai by broad gauge ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

1082. [*Transferred to the 12th May*, 1982].

Linkage for Wagons from the Collieries

1083. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been linkage for wagons from the collieries

for the past several decades for supplying coal to the domestic consumers with Daltonganj Coal Merchant's Association, Calcutta, Calcutta Coal Holders Association, Sealdah, Ballyganj Coal Depot Holder Federation and Ketla Railway Coal Depot Holders Association ;

(b) whether it is a fact that because of non-supply of coal by the Coal India Limited, the Burnpur Steel Plant was supplying 4200 wagons annually for supply of bridge coal, which was 50 per cent less than before ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Burnpur Steel Plant is not able to supply even 5000 tonnes of bridge Coal per month in place of 40,000 tonnes as a result of which small traders have been suffering ; and

(d) whether Government propose to make arrangements for the supply of 40,000 tonnes of bridge coal per month from the Bokaro Steel Plant with a full compliment of wagons in order to save the traders from doom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (d) The information is bing collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allocating Railway Wagons

1084. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH :

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Member (Traffic) is not allocating railway wagons to small parties, but is allocating them to big traders in connivance with the Zonal General Managers ;

(b) whether it is a fact that earlier, two/three traders used to combine for loading their goods in one wagon and in order to encourage this practice, the railways were giving them 50 per cent concession as against those who were hiring a full-rate and whether the rates have now been enhanced four times because of which the traders with small capital are suffering ; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to provide relief to the small traders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Purchasing Cement Sleepers

1085. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH :

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the private and public companies from whom cement sleepers are being purchased by Govt ;

(b) the number of railway bridges under construction at present, zone-wise and division-wise ;

(c) the details of the bridges constructed during the last three years and the bridges proposed to be constructed during the Eighth Plan period ;

(d) the name of the parties and the details of the works awarded to them and whether it is a fact that the Member (Civil Engineering) in connivance with the Zonal General Managers and Chief Engineers has awarded works to L-II parties resulting in loss of millions of rupees to Government ; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to get the matter investigated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Concrete sleepers are currently purchased from 60 Private companies and 1 Public Sector Company.